Ontrouersies. plees and discordes
Betwene persones were two or three
Sought out the grounde of recordes
This was the custom of antiquite.
Jugges were sette / that had auctorite
The cas conceyued stondyng indifferent
Betwene parties to yeue Jugement

Parties assembled of high & lowe degre
Were eny tted to shewen ny sentence
Grounded of their quarels the lawe made hem fr
With oute exception to come ny audience
Be the president / comaunded first scilence
Fredom yeue / the parties not to spare
Be title of right their greues to declare

Upon this mater shortly to conclude
Nought yore agoon as I reherce shall
I fonde to purpose a symylitude
Full craftely depeynted upon a wall
Betwene sittyng ny estate royall
The fierce lyon famous ny alle royames
And the emperial egle percyng the sone beames

[illegible] the dredefull Juggers tweyne
[illegible] sittyng I toke kepe
That herde the parties by & by compleyne
The hors the ghoos and the symple shepe
The processe was not to persounde ne depe
Of their debate but contryued of a fable
Whiche of hem was to many most prouffitable

Eche for his partye proudly gan procede
To forge hym self be recordy of scripture
By philosophers as clerkes seen and rede
The prerogatiues yeuen hem be nature
Whiche of these thre to euery creature
In re publica auaileth most a man
For his partye thus first the hors began

The hors.

To procede briefly & not longy to tarye
First sio the trouthe that I do not erre
What keest is foundy in alle thingy so necessarie
As is the horse bothe nyghe and ferre
And so notable to many in prees & werre
Hors in cronycles who so redeth a right
Haue saued ofte many a worthy knyght

Marcyalle profhesse in especyalle
Godn hath he horse yeue to werrours
Recorde of alisaundre whos horse bucyfalle
Made hym escape fro many sharp shours
The goldey chare of olde conquerours
Towarde the tryumphe for knyghtly deedes
Conceyuedn hit was with foure white stedes

Remembre hector the troian champiõ
Whos horse was callidn whilom galathe
Upon whos backe he pleyde the lyõ
Fulle ofte sithes he made the grekes flee
The stede of perseus was clepedn pigase
With swifte wynges/ poetes seyn the same
Was for his swiftenes namedn the horse of fame

Eques ab equo is seidn of kerrey right
And chyualer is saidn of chyualrye
In duche a rider is calledn a knyght
Aragon tonge doth also specyfye
Caualero/ whiche in that partie
Is namedn of worship & tolke begynnyng
Of spores of goldn & chiefly of rydyng

emperours these princes & these kynges
Whan they ley armed in bright plate & mayle
Without horse what were their mustringes
Their brode baners or their riche apparaille
To fore her enemyes to shewe hem in batayle
With oute horse. spere. sword. ne shelde
Myght litell auaile for to holde a felde

The hardy prykars vpon hors back
Be sent to forn what grounde is best to take
In their ordenance that ther be no lack
Be prouidence how they the felde shal make
An hors wole wepe for his maister sake
Chaucer remembrith the swerdy. rynge & glasse
Presentedy were vpon a stede of brasse

Set vpone two hilles the prophete zacharye
Salde stedes foure/the first of hem was rede
In chares foure the felde to magnefye
And the seconde was black it is no drede
The thirde was white body neck and hede
The fourth diuerse of colours/wonder strange
And to knyghthode alle these colours longe

The rede hors was token of hardynesse
Whiche apperteyneth to euery manly knyghte
The cole blacke helme a signe of soberneesse
Poraille oppressid to helpe in their ryghte
The White mylke stede that was glady of sigh
Tokeneth that knyghthode trauly sholdy entend
Holy chirche maidens & wedelwis to defende

The many folde colours to speke in generalle
Be sondry vertues andy condicions
As the foure vertues callyd cardynalle
Longyng to knyghthody tencreee their venons
In re publica, callidy the champions
Trouthe to sustene & shewe hem self strongy
Goundy le ordre to se noman haue wrongy

With outen horse iustes ne tournaille
May not be holde in werre ne in pres
Nor in palastre no pleyes marcyalle
Yf horse do fayle may come to non encrees
Ne noman sothly dar put hym in prees
With outen hors for short conclusion
To atteyne the palme of triumphal guerdon

...ther degrees ther ley of hors also
So grete prouffit/to euery comonte
The plough ne carte myght nought do
With oute horse/dayly ye may see
Tyllyngh Were loste ne Were We horses parde
The lesy marchante to his avantage
Ner shippes & horse coude haue no cariage

The shippe le likenesse is callidy ay hors of tre
Full notably Who can vnderstande
To lede men & carye them ouer the see for
As doy horse Whan they come to lande
The poure may eke ledeth my a bande
His litell capull. his coty his mele to selle
And Whan hit is gwūdey bringeth it fro ỳ melle

In Wynter seasoy to make leal chere
The hors is nedeful Wode & turf to carye
Wyn fruyt & oyle to serue thurgh the yere
Ys beought to vyneters & to the potecarye
Diuerse drugges andy many a letuarye
Sondry sales andy shortly all Vitaille
Of the cariage horse haue the trauaille

Heye ne obes pleinly Who list lerne
Maye fro the feldes ner the medes greene
To the garner neyther to the berne
With oute horse be caried hit is sene
And vnto pourpose/I seye as I mene
Ther is no beest rekene as I began
So necessarye/as horse is vnto man

Auguste is a season mery and glad
When euery tre with nedbe frupt is lade
With draught of hors the shuis ben home lad
That moneth passid/the leeuis gyn to fade
Whiche made in somer a plesant lusty shade
What don horse than to spekie in wordes pleyn
The seconde croppe they carye home of rybeyn

By draught of horse fro ryuers & wellis
Bouges be brought to brebars for goode ale
Lede stoon tymbre caryage of kellis
We bringe to chirches in trouth this is no tale
We lede cloth sackis & many a large male
And gladly somers be sent to forne
With gardeuyandes/hold myght horse be for horn

prudent Juges the egle & the lyon
What I haue sayd doth Wisely aduertise
Weyeth this mater in your discrescon
Where ghoos or shepe pleynly to deuyse
Of their nature may in ony Wyse
Justely deme ye, late hit not be spared
Unto ay horse be lykenyd & compared

That I haue told is trouth & no feynyng
No Wight of reson agayn hit may applye
Ghoos ne gander ne grene gosselyng
But yf they entre the boundes of enuye
Late her come forth and saye for her partye
Ghoos yes truste me Wel for the I Wil not spare
Lyke as I fele my herdyte to declare
as I
Where as thou hast Unto thy pasture
But ony place, to make in thy repaire
Hit is granted to me by nature
To abide on Water, londe and eyer
Mosb amonge flowres & grenys that be feyr
Mosb hathe in ryuers swymme in many a ponde
For storme or showre as dry as on the londe

To myn entente mo thinges ye may seen
As men expert knowen that ben olde
Whan wylde ghees hye in thaire vp fleen
With their wynges displaied & vnfolde
A pronostyque of snowe & froste colde
Kalendes bryngе pleynly for to seye
Agayn wynter holt men shulde pourveye

The grees of ganders is good in medicyne
With sondry gomes tempered for the golbe
Syuere aches to swagen and declyne
In thextremytees to dralbe the malice oute
Fethers of ghees whan they falle or molbe
To gadre hem vp herdes hem delyte
To selle to fleschers the graye with the white

Men plucke stalkes out of my wynges tweyn
Som to portreye som to note or wryte
Whan rethoricians haue do their besy peyne
Fresshe epistles and lettres to endyte
With oute wrytyng availeth not a myte
For yf pennes & wrytyng were albeye
Of remembrance than were loste the keye

ghees also the dede is prouidy of te
In many a contrey andy many a regyon
To make pyllowes & fether bedes softe
Of prudence men plucken of the doune
Thus to make a playn comparison
As pellowes ley to chambres agreable
So is harde stralwe lytter for the stable

The fyme of ghees andy grene goselynges
Gadryd in maye amongy the herbes sote
Agayn brennyngy scaldyngy & other thinges
Tempredy with oyle or butter doth bote
To swage payne pergeth to the rote
But hors dongy as refuse is cast awaye
Ys goody for fatneis tempredy with claye

A dede hors is but a foule carayn
Thaire infectingy it is so corruptable
But a fat ghoos when hit is nelwe slayn
In dissh̄es of goldy a mussell greable
Is seruidy vpon a kynges table
Swymmyngy a liue in watres crystallyn
Tenderly rosted requyreth to haue wyn
I pray for the sum gentilman to bestow
him to his victuals & I will pay

Thurgh alle the londe of bruttes albyon
For fetherdy arowes as J reherce can
Ghoos is the beſt to make compariſon
Except fethers of peock & of ſwan
The bolle & arowes ſyth the warre began
Haue engliſhmen remembrid in ſtorye
Of their enemyes hady many a victorye

Hors in the felde may muſtre with grete pride
Whan they of trompettis here the blody ſoun
But whan an arowe hath percyd his ſyde
To grounde he goth & caſte his maiſter doun
Entryng the felde he pleyeth the lyon
What folowith after, his carayn ſtynkith ſore
Sauf ſkyn & ſhone ther leueth nomore

Exodus cum Angelus Corpi Eius Ensium Miſcere uici

Myghty captayns & knyghtes in the felde
Make their wardes and their ordenance
Firſt men of armes with polax ſpere & ſhelde
Sette in ordre delbe to haue the gouernance
Whiche at peyters toke the kynge of fraunce
Thanke to the ghoos moſte be youen of right
Whiche in the felde ſo proudly toke her flight

Wroth of my flyght for hasty negligence
Of presumpcion/the ghoos was lefte behynde
Whan the famous & worthy duc of clarence
Rode ou layardy with his eyen blynde
Flight of my fethers was put out of mynde
Andy for he set that day of me no force
So litil or nought/what a vailedy hym his horse

Goolkes olde remembre wel in sentence
Whilom whan rome by his foon was take
The capitole kepte of with grete defence
Noyse of a gander/the captayn dide wake
Whiche remembredy/they set vp for his sake
In their temples wyde andy olde
A large gandre forged al of fyn golde

His watker noyse was theire sauacoñ
Be whiche the captayn ran vpon the walle
Thus be a gander recouerd was the tolvñ
Called of the world the cyte moste ryalle
Cyte of cytees that day most principalle
Was euer horse in book that ye can rede
Who se publica/that dide suche a dede

Pro. ff. Ashmole fol. B.5.44